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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/019,268 Confirmation No. 1324
Applicant(s) : Siegfried RUTHARDT et al.
Filed : March 12, 2002
TC/A.U. : 3752
Examiner : Davis D. Hwu
Docket No. : R.37379
Customer No. : 02119

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: January 13, 2006

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(i),
AND EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE OF THE CITED PRIOR ART**

Sir:

The undersigned hereby requests that the prior art cited on the attached prior art statement be placed of record in the application file.

This citation of prior art is made under 37 CFR 1.97(i), since it is being filed after payment of the issue fee.

This prior art citation is being submitted under 37 CFR 1.97(i) because the prior art did not come to the attention of the undersigned until a time such that 37 CFR 1.97(e) precluded consideration under 37 CFR 1.97(d).

The undersigned asserts that the prior art cited on the attached form PTO/SB/08a has been compared to the allowed claims, and that the prior art cited on this form PTO/SB/08a is not materially closer to the claimed subject matter than is the prior art which the examiner has already considered.

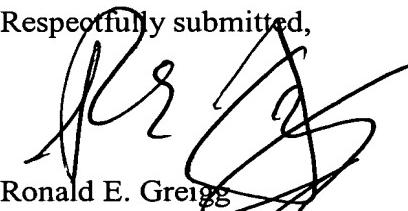
Application No. 10/019,268
IDS filed January 13, 2006
After Payment of the Issue Fee

The relevance of the prior art cited on the attached form PTO/SB/08a is as follows:

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This patent shows a fluid-tight sealing assembly for the rod of a hydraulic actuator is axially slidable inside a passage of a fixed outer body between a chamber at high pressure and an external environment at low pressure, comprising a first composite seal nearer the chamber at high pressure, with a sealing part sliding on the external surface of the rod and consisting of a ring made of plastics material with a low coefficient of friction, forming a step towards the chamber at high pressure, and surrounded by a toroidal seal made of elastomeric material providing a static seal and radial clamping. The whole is housed in a corresponding seat in the outer body, followed by a second composite seal, nearer the outside, with a sealing part sliding on the rod and consisting of a ring made of an elastomeric material with an angled sealing lip in contact with the surface of the rod, coupled to a ring made of plastics material with a low coefficient of friction, housed in a corresponding seat in the outer body, with the angled sealing lip turned towards the first seal. The seals are axially spaced and an annular chamber is formed between them.

Respectfully submitted,



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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	10/019,268
				Filing Date	March 12, 2002
				First Named Inventor	Siegfried RUTHHARDT et al.
				Art Unit	3752
				Examiner Name	Davis D. Hwu
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	R.37379

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. **1** Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). **2** See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. **3** Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). **4** For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. **5** Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. **6** Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.